

THE RIVER REP
at the
IVORYTON PLAYHOUSE
presents

Love Letters

by

A.R. GURNEY

KATHARINE
HOUGHTON

PATRICK
TOVATT

August 28, 1989

CAST

(in order of appearance)

Andrew Makepeace Ladd III PATRICK TOVATT
Melissa Gardner KATHARINE HOUGHTON

THERE WILL BE ONE INTERMISSION

KATHARINE HOUGHTON (*Melissa Gardner*) appeared on Broadway in *Our Town*, *The Front Page*, and *A Very Rich Woman*. She won the Theatre World award for her performance in *A Scent of Flowers* Off-Broadway in 1969. For several seasons she was a member of N.Y.C.'s Mirror Repertory Co. where she played Mary Stuart (*Vivat, Vivat Regina*), Gabrielle (*The Mad Woman Of Chaillot*) and Mary L. (*The Time Of Your Life*). In 1987 she performed at N.Y.C.'s West Bank Cafe and at The Ivoryton Playhouse in her own trilogy: *The Hooded Eye*. In regional theatres she has played major roles in over fifty productions including Portia (*The Merchant of Venice*), Kate (*The Taming Of The Shrew*), Nina (*The Seagull*), Yelena (*Uncle Vanya*), Nora (*A Doll's House*), Hedda (*Hedda Gabler*), Doreen (*Tartuffe*), Hypatia (*Misalliance*), Louka (*Arms And The Man*), Barbara (*Major Barbara*), Leon-tine (*13 Rue De L'Amour*), Antigone (*Anouilh's Antigone*), Laura (*The Glass Menagerie*), Catherine (*Suddenly Last Summer*), Isabel (*Ring Round The Moon*), Deborah (*A Touch Of The Poet*), and Mrs. Pat (*Dear Liar*). On TV she was Nabby Adams in the award-winning *Adam's Chronicles*. She has appeared in both featured and guest roles in several series, most recently *I'll Take Manhattan*. In film she is best known for her role in *Guess Who's Coming To Dinner*. Her most recent film is *Mr. North*, directed by Daniel Huston. She has performed her one woman show: *To Heaven In A Swing* in N.Y.C. at the American Place Theatre, The York Theatre, and at Barnard College; as well as in Houston, Amherst and Bowdoin Colleges, Keene State and Penn State, in Connecticut at The Ivoryton Playhouse, Robert's Theatre, and the Ct. Historical Society, in Massachusetts: twice at Orchard House and at the Vineyard Haven Theatre. Her play *Buddha* was published in the *Best Short Plays of 1988*. Other of Miss Houghton's plays that have been produced are: *Merlin* (Coterie Theatre, Kansas), *The Merry Month Of May* (West Bank Cafe, N.Y.C.), *Mortal Friends* (W.B.C.) *Phone Play* (44th St. Theatre, N.Y.C.) and her translation of Anouilh's *Antigone* has been performed at the Advent

Theatre in Nashville and Ukiah High Performing Arts. She and Mr. Tovatt were members of Pilgrim Repertory Co. which performed Shakespeare For Lovers and Others, Anything Will Grow, and America Speaks extensively throughout the South. They also worked together at Indiana Rep., Actors Theatre of Louisville, and The West Bank Cafe and for many years owned neighboring farms in Kentucky.

PATRICK TOVATT (*Andrew Makepeace Ladd III*) made his most recent New York stage appearance in the Tony-winning revival of *Our Town* for Lincoln Center Theatre. The founding producing director of Virginia Stage Company, his productions have played The Kennedy Center, The Humana Festival of New American Plays, the festivals in Dublin and Spoleto, USA and at leading resident theatres across the country. He is published by Samuel French, Dramatists Play Service and represented in *Best Short Plays of 1984*. He has enjoyed productions by Manhattan Theatre Club, Actors' Theatre of Louisville, The Empty Space, The Eureka Theatre, PBS, Pacifica Radio and German State Radio among many others. Mr. Tovatt is a founding participant in The Playwrights Lab at the Sundance Institute and has served on the board of Theatre Communications Group. He has made many appearances on television, including guest starring most recently on *Designing Women* and *Jake And The Fatman*. Mr. Tovatt may be seen currently as "Cal Stricklyn" in the CBS daytime drama, *As The World Turns*. He lives in Manhattan and admits to a lifelong addiction to good trout water.

SUSIE CORDON (*Producer*) is pleased to have *Love Letters* mark her debut in association with The River Rep. Her theatrical background includes production stage managing the New York runs of *Noises Off*, *Benefactors*, *Les Liaisons Dangereuses* and *Breaking The Code*; supervising the national tours of *Noises Off* and directing assignments involved with the above plays.